

## IN THE CLAIMS

Claims 1 – 16. Canceled.

17. (Previously presented) A method for treating a patient in need of treatment for a cardiac disorder, comprising administering to said patient an effective amount of a seven-carbon fatty acid chain composition to provide relief to said patient.

18. (Previously presented) The method of Claim 17, wherein said seven-carbon fatty acid composition comprises n-heptanoic acid.

19. (Previously presented) The method of Claim 17, wherein said seven-carbon fatty acid composition comprises a triglyceride comprising n-heptanoic acid.

20. (Previously presented) The method of Claim 19, wherein said triglyceride comprises triheptanoin.

21. (Previously presented) The method of Claim 17, wherein said seven-carbon fatty acid composition is selected from a substituted, unsaturated, or branched seven-carbon fatty acid composition.

22. (Previously presented) The method of Claim 17, wherein said seven-carbon fatty acid chain composition is selected from the group consisting of 4-methylhexanoate, 4-methylhexenoate, 3-hydroxy-4-methylhexanoate; 5-methylhexanoate, 5-methylhexenoate and 3-hydroxy-5-methylhexanoate.

23. (Previously presented) The method of any of Claims 17 to 22, wherein said cardiac disorder is cardiac muscle weakness.

24. (Previously presented) The method of any of Claims 17 to 22, wherein said cardiac disorder is cardiac myopathy.

25. (Previously presented) The method of any of Claims 17 to 22, wherein said cardiac disorder is the need by heart tissue for fuel resulting from reduced efficiency of the even carbon fatty acid metabolic pathway.

26. (Previously presented) The method of any of Claims 17 to 22, wherein said composition is adapted for consumption in one or more doses, and said doses comprise about 15 to about 40% of the dietary caloric requirement for said patient for 24 hours.

27. (Previously presented) The method of Claim 23, wherein said composition is adapted for consumption in one or more doses, and said doses comprise about 15 to about 40% of the dietary caloric requirement for said patient for 24 hours.

28. (Previously presented) The method of Claim 24, wherein said composition is adapted for consumption in one or more doses, and said doses comprise about 15 to about 40% of the dietary caloric requirement for said patient for 24 hours.

29. (Previously presented) The method of Claim 25, wherein said composition is adapted for consumption in one or more doses, and said doses comprise about 15 to about 40% of the dietary caloric requirement for said patient for 24 hours.

30. (Previously presented) The method of any of Claims 17 to 22, wherein said composition is adapted for consumption in one or more doses, and said doses comprise about 20 to about 35% of the dietary caloric requirement for said patient for 24 hours.

31. (Previously presented) The method of Claim 23, wherein said composition is adapted for consumption in one or more doses, and said doses comprise about 20 to about 35% of the dietary caloric requirement for said patient for 24 hours.

32. (Previously presented) The method of Claim 24, wherein said composition is adapted for consumption in one or more doses, and said doses comprise about 20 to about 35% of the dietary caloric requirement for said patient for 24 hours.

33. (Previously presented) The method of Claim 25, wherein said composition is adapted for consumption in one or more doses, and said doses comprise about 20 to about 35% of the dietary caloric requirement for said patient for 24 hours.

34. (Previously presented) The method of any of Claims 17 to 22, wherein said composition is administered via enteral administration.

35. (Previously presented) The method of Claim 23, wherein said composition is administered via enteral administration.

36. (Previously presented) The method of Claim 24, wherein said composition is administered via enteral administration.

37. (Previously presented) The method of Claim 25, wherein said composition is administered via enteral administration.

38. (Previously presented) The method of any of Claims 17 to 22, wherein said composition is administered via parenteral administration.

39. (Previously presented) The method of Claim 23, wherein said composition is administered via parenteral administration.

40. (Previously presented) The method of Claim 24, wherein said composition is administered via parenteral administration.

41. (Previously presented) The method of Claim 25, wherein said composition is administered via parenteral administration.

42. (Previously presented) A method for treating a patient in need of treatment for a cardiac disorder, comprising administering to said patient an effective amount of a seven-carbon fatty acid chain composition to provide relief to said patient, wherein said composition is provided in an amount from about 15 to about 40% of the dietary caloric requirement for said patient for 24 hours.

43. (Previously presented) The method of Claim 42, wherein said composition is administered via enteral administration.

44. (Previously presented) The method of Claim 43, wherein said enteral administration is orally.

45. (Previously presented) The method of Claim 43, wherein enteral administration is via a nasogastric tube.

46. (Previously presented) The method of Claim 42, wherein said composition is administered via parenteral administration.

47. (Previously presented) A method for directly providing fuel to heart tissue of a patient, comprising administering to said patient a seven-carbon fatty acid chain composition whereby said heart tissue rapidly obtains nutrition from odd carbon fatty acid metabolism.

48. (Previously presented) The method of Claim 47, wherein said seven-carbon fatty acid composition comprises n-heptanoic acid.

49. (Previously presented) The method of Claim 47, wherein said seven-carbon fatty acid composition comprises a triglyceride comprising n-heptanoic acid.

50. (Previously presented) The method of Claim 49, wherein said triglyceride comprises triheptanoin.

51. (Previously presented) The method of Claim 47, wherein said seven-carbon fatty acid composition is selected from a substituted, unsaturated, or branched seven-carbon fatty acid composition.

52. (Previously presented) The method of Claim 47, wherein said seven-carbon fatty acid chain composition is selected from the group consisting of 4-methylhexanoate, 4-methylhexenoate, 3-hydroxy-4-methylhexanoate; 5-methylhexanoate, 5-methylhexenoate and 3-hydroxy-5-methylhexanoate.